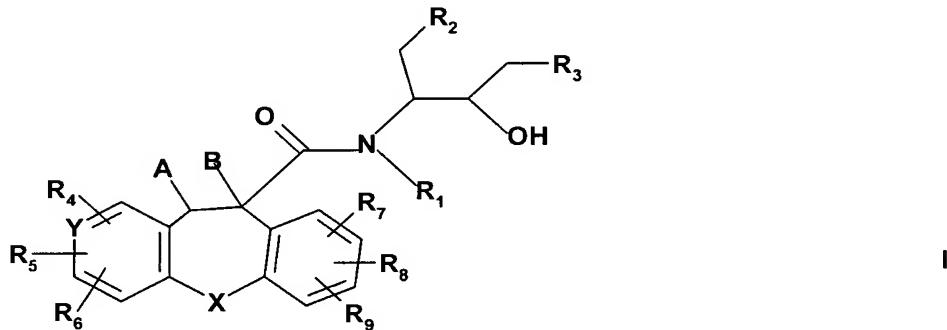


Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1. (Currently amended) A compound of formula I



wherein

X is O, NH, N(C₁₋₄)alkyl, CO or CHO₂,

Y is CH or N,

A and B are each hydrogen or together form a second bond between the carbon atoms to which they are attached,

R_1 is hydrogen or $(C_{1-4})alkyl$ ($C_{1-4}alkyl$),

R₂ is optionally substituted (C₁₋₈)alkyl, (C₃₋₇)cycloalkyl, (C₃₋₇)cycloalkyl(C₁₋₄)alkyl, aryl or heteroaryl,

R₃ is CH(R_e)CONR_aR_b or (CH₂)_nNR_cR_d,

n is 0, 1 or 2,

R_a, R_b, R_c and R_d, independently, are hydrogen or optionally substituted (C₁₋₈)alkyl, (C₃₋₇)cycloalkyl, (C₃₋₇)cycloalkyl(C₁₋₄)alkyl, (C₇₋₉)bicycloalkyl, 1-aza-(C₇₋₉)bicycloalkyl, aryl, aryl(C₁₋₄)alkyl, heteroaryl, heteroaryl(C₁₋₄)alkyl or heterocyclyl, or

R_a , R_b , R_c and R_d , together with the nitrogen to which they are attached, form an optionally substituted pyrrolidinyl, piperidino, morpholino or piperazinyl group,

R_e is $(C_{1-8})alkyl$, $(C_{1-4})alkoxy(C_{1-4})alkyl$, $(C_{3-7})cycloalkyl$ or $(C_{3-7})cycloalkyl(C_{1-4})alkyl$, and

R_4 , R_5 , R_6 , R_7 , R_8 and R_9 , independently, are hydrogen, (C_{1-4}) alkyl, (C_{1-4}) alkoxy,

(C₁₋₄)alkyl-SO₂, cyano, nitro or halogen, in free base or acid addition salt form.

Claim 2. (Currently amended) A compound of formula I according to claim 1 wherein

X is O, NH, N(C₁₋₄)alkyl, CO or CHO₂,

Y is CH or N,

A and B are each hydrogen or together form a second bond between the carbon atoms to which they are attached,

R₁ is hydrogen or (C₁₋₄)alkyl,

R₂ is optionally substituted (C₁₋₈)alkyl, (C₃₋₇)cycloalkyl, (C₃₋₇)cycloalkyl(C₁₋₄)alkyl, aryl or heteroaryl,

R₃ is CH(R_e)CONR_aR_b or (CH₂)_nNR_cR_d,

n is 0, 1 or 2,

R_a, R_b, R_c and R_d, independently, are hydrogen or optionally substituted (C₁₋₈)alkyl, (C₃₋₇)cycloalkyl, (C₃₋₇)cycloalkyl(C₁₋₄)alkyl, aryl, aryl(C₁₋₄)alkyl, heteroaryl or heteroaryl(C₁₋₄)alkyl or

R_a, R_b, R_c and R_d, together with the nitrogen to which they are attached, form an optionally substituted pyrrolidinyl, piperidino, morpholino or piperazinyl group,

R_e is (C₁₋₈)alkyl, (C₁₋₄)alkoxy(C₁₋₄)alkyl, (C₃₋₇)cycloalkyl or (C₃₋₇)cycloalkyl(C₁₋₄)alkyl, and

R₄, R₅, R₆, R₇, R₈ and R₉, independently, are hydrogen, (C₁₋₄)alkyl, (C₁₋₄)alkoxy, (C₁₋₄)alkyl-SO₂, cyano, nitro or halogen, in free base or acid addition salt form.

Claim 3. (Currently amended) A compound of formula I according to claim 1 wherein

X is O, NH or CO,

Y is CH or N,

A and B are each hydrogen or together form a second bond between the carbon atoms to which they are attached,

R₁ is hydrogen,

R₂ is (C₁₋₄)alkyl, or

phenyl, which is unsubstituted or substituted by hydroxy, amino or halogen,

R₃ is CH(R_e)CONR_aR_b or (CH₂)_nNR_cR_d,

n is 0 or 1,

R_a and R_b, independently, are hydrogen, (C₁₋₇)alkyl, (C₁₋₄)alkoxy(C₁₋₄)alkyl, benzyl, phenyl, (C₃₋₅)cycloalkyl(C₁₋₄)alkyl, pyridyl, pyridyl(C₁₋₄)alkyl, (C₁₋₄)alkyl piperidinyl,

tetrahydropyranyl, (C₇₋₈)bicycloalkyl, 1-aza-(C₇₋₉)bicycloalkyl; (C₅₋₆)cycloalkyl substituted by hydroxy; or pyrazolyl or isoxazolyl being unsubstituted or substituted by (C₁₋₄)alkyl;

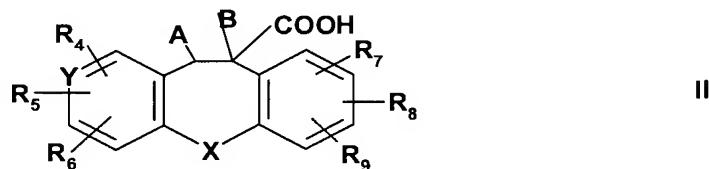
R_c and R_d, independently, are hydrogen, tetrahydronaphthyl, (C₁₋₄)alkoxy tetrahydronaphthyl, (C₃₋₅)cycloalkyl being unsubstituted or substituted by halophenyl; chromanyl being substituted by halogen, (C₁₋₄)alkyl or (C₃₋₇)cycloalkyl; or (C₁₋₄)alkyl being unsubstituted or mono or disubstituted by (C₅₋₇)cycloalkyl, phenyl, (C₁₋₄)alkoxy phenyl, di(C₁₋₄)alkoxy phenyl, halophenyl, phenoxy phenyl, (C₁₋₄)alkyl phenyl, hydroxy (C₁₋₄)alkyl phenyl, (C₁₋₄)alkoxy (C₁₋₄)alkoxy phenyl, naphthyl, pyridyl, thiadiazolyl, benzimidazolyl or furyl; R_e is (C₁₋₈)alkyl, and

R₄, R₅, R₆, R₇, R₈ and R₉, independently, are hydrogen or halogen, in free base or acid addition salt form.

Claim 4. (Original) A process for the preparation of a compound of formula I as defined in claim 1, or a salt thereof, which includes the steps of acylating a compound of formula II



wherein R₁, R₂ and R₃ are as defined in claim 1, with an acid of formula III



wherein X, Y, A, B, R₄, R₅, R₆, R₇, R₈ and R₉ are as defined in claim 1, or an activated form thereof, and recovering the so obtained compound of formula I in free base or acid addition salt form.

Claim 5. (Canceled)

Claim 6. (Canceled)

Claim 7. (Previously presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of claim 1 in free base or pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salt form, in association with a pharmaceutical carrier or diluent.

Claim 8-11. (Canceled)